

Title: Need to exempt edible oil imported by vanaspati manufacturers from 8 % special additional duty-laid.

DR. RANJIT KUMAR PANJA (BARASAT) : Vanaspati is the common cooking medium for the common people. Price rise due to taxation, import difficulties and the recent 8% special additional duty may result in this cooking medium being out of reach of the common people and it may ever be out of market due to the burden on the vanaspati industry which is already sick. 79 out of 189 factories are closed with the balance running at 30% to 40% capacity.

I would like to urge the government that edible oil imported by vanaspati manufacturers and edible oil plant as raw material should be exempted from the purview of 8% special additional duty as has already been done for the Newspaper/Printing Industry.